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Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

## FRENCH HOLD OUTSKIRTS OF COMBLES

**British Troops Join in Attempt to Squeeze Germans Out of Positions Now Held to the North of Ginchy**

London, Sept. 14.—The British have joined with the French in the new eastward drive to squeeze the Germans out of Combles and Peronne, and made progress last night north of Ginchy.

The British gain, officially reported by General Haig, draws a noose tighter around Combles, whose outskirts are now held by the French. On the eastern side of Combles the French have pushed forward in this week's fighting until the town is about two-thirds surrounded.

The Germans are counter-attacking desperately to save Peronne. The French war office today announced that more German troops have been transferred from the Verdun front and that twenty thousand Germans from Verdun led the German attack on the Combles-Peronne line yesterday. The German war office declared this afternoon that the Teuton counter-attacks have not with some success, and that all armed attacks last night were repulsed.

As if in answer to the German claim that the allied offensive in northern Greece had been stopped, the French war office this afternoon announced further gains by the Serbs on the allies' right wing. The Serbians captured a row of Bulgarian trenches and pushed the Bulgars from a dominating height. On the remainder of the Macedonian front only artillery duels and minor patrol activities were reported by the French and British war office.

The deadlock on the Russian front and in southeastern Roumania continues. The Russian war office announced the repulse of German-Bulgarian attacks east of the fort of Silistra.

The German war office officially confirmed reports that the Bulgarians occupied the Greek port of Kavala and announced that the German-Bulgar campaign in southeastern Roumania is progressing.

The repulse of allied attacks at several points on the Macedonian frontier was announced at Berlin.

The fact that Berlin saw fit to announce the occupation of Kavala was interpreted here as meaning that the Germans no longer hope to keep Greece out of the war. The German minister at Athens is reported to have assured King Constantine several weeks ago that Kavala would not be occupied by the Bulgars so long as Greece continued neutral.

## TEDDY CONGRATULATES SENATOR POINDEXTER

New York, Sept. 14.—Colonel Roosevelt today sent the following telegram of congratulation to Senator Miles Poindexter of Washington:

"Heartiest congratulations on your splendid victory. This, Hiram Johnson's success in California, and the results in Maine are certainly good omens."

## AVIATOR IS KILLED AT COUNTY FAIR FLIGHT

Fredericksburg, Texas, Sept. 14.—Jack Miller, of Cleburne, Texas, an aviator, is dead today as the result of injuries received when his aeroplane fell 75 feet during a flight at the county fair here late yesterday. Miller made the flight under protest because of the high wind.

## RUSS-JAP TREATY IS ACCEPTABLE TO UNITED STATES

Washington, Sept. 14.—Unofficial opinion expressed at the state department today by those following the Russo-Japanese treaty was to the effect that the assurances of the Japanese foreign office regarding the treaty received at the department of state last night were satisfactory to this government. The definiteness and openness of the Japanese memorandum to Ambassador Guthrie made a favorable impression here. The only question remaining is whether or not there may be secret clauses. Officials said they had nothing to base such a belief on and that in view of the explicitness of the Japanese statement there appeared to be no further necessity for further discussion of the matter.

Washington, Sept. 14.—The text of written assurances given American Ambassador Guthrie at Tokio by the Japanese foreign office regarding Japan's adherence to the "open door" policy in China in connection with the recently signed Russo-Japanese treaty was given out by the state department today.

Part of the text follows: "The imperial government desires to assure the American government that the new convention is in no sense designed to repeal or to modify the provisions of article 2 of the conventions concluded between Japan and Russia of July 31, 1907, nor have the imperial government entertained for a moment any intentions to depart from the policy to which they have avowedly committed themselves respecting the maintenance of the independence and territorial integrity of China as well as the equal opportunity for the trade of all nations in that country."

"On the contrary, they are as strongly convinced as ever of the usefulness of that policy in the interests of the general stability in the far east, which they have always very near their heart."

These written assurances were given Ambassador Guthrie September 13 in addition to oral ones in reply to a request which the state department made through the ambassador August 16 for information regarding the treaty.

The Russian minister of foreign affairs has similarly assured the American ambassador to Russia regarding the treaty.

## GEN. VILLA IS SEEN NEAR SANTA CLARA

El Paso, Sept. 14.—Despite General Pershing's dispatch to General Funston that Villa's northward progress could not be confirmed, General Gonzales, Carranzista commander at Juarez, today announced officially that Villa is still in the Santa Clara region, where he has been seen personally by peons, but is showing no disposition to fight.

A small band of Villistas fought for four hours yesterday in the Laguna district with de facto troops, according to Gonzales. The bandits fled, leaving seven dead on the field.

Copies of a newspaper published by the new revolutionary party of Legalistas have been smuggled into Chihuahua City by train crews. Two men have been arrested for the offense.

## SUBMARINE BREMEN REPORTED CAPTURED

Galveston, Texas, Sept. 14.—The German submarine merchant ship Bremen has been captured and is tied up in the river Tyne, according to the captain of a British merchant steamer that arrived here today from England.

## PORTLAND DAY AT THE COUNTY FAIR WEDNESDAY

**Special Excursion Will Be Run From the Rose City on the Second Day of the Big Josephine Exposition, and Visitors Will Inspect Sugar Factory, New Railroad and Other Enterprises in the Grants Pass District**

Wednesday of next week, the second day of the Josephine county fair, will be Portland day in Grants Pass, and a large number of visitors will be here from the Rose City to get a look at the evidences of industrial progress of which they have heard. The details of the excursion from Portland are now being worked out by a committee from the Portland Chamber of Commerce, Emory Olmstead being the committee chairman. They will arrive Wednesday morning and will remain here during the day and until Thursday morning. Visits to the sugar factory, over the line of the new railroad, into the adjoining country and to the county fair will be upon the program. The Portland business men were interested in the excursion at this time through the recent visit to the northern city by R. B. Miller, vice-president of the California & Oregon Coast railroad, and acting in co-operation with the railroad people the local Commercial club sent invitations to the Chamber of Commerce as a body and to many officials of the Southern Pacific and other companies to visit the city on Portland day.

For the entertainment of the visitors, the regular program for the fair will include many interesting features, while visits to the sugar factory and other places of interest will take much of the day.

Speaking of the coming excursion, the Portland Oregonian has the following comment:

"Grants Pass is to be the objective of an excursion of representative business men of Portland on September 20."

## OFFICIALS OF NEW YORK CAR LINES REFUSE TO ARBITRATE DIFFERENCES

New York, Sept. 14.—While reports were coming in of five street cars operated by strikebreakers being piled up at the bottom of a grade, injuring nine persons, and traction officials stolidly reiterated their refusal to arbitrate their differences with the union, several thousand strikers paraded through the streets here today seeking support in their fight for the existence of their organization.

Headed by a band furnished by the musicians' union, the strikers marched from 86th street and Park avenue to Union square, where a mass meeting was held this afternoon. About 3,000 of the strikers were in uniform. Police estimates placed the number in line at 7,000, but union officials declared there were many more.

Today marked the opening of the second week of the strike. Settlement was apparently as far off as the day the men walked out. All companies have now joined in the refusal to accept the recommendation of the public service commission for arbitration. Talk of a general strike in support of the car men is still heard, but no definite action has been taken.

The Central Federated unions are to hold another meeting tonight, when the question will be debated.

Samuel Gompers, president, and Hugh Frayne, organizer of the American Federation of Labor, were scheduled among the speakers at the mass

"The purpose of the trip will be to visit the sugar plant of the Utah-Idaho Sugar company, which is being installed there, and to look over the recent new railway construction that has been going on."

"The sugar enterprise is one of the biggest things that has brought outside capital into the state for a long time and the Portland Chamber of Commerce feels that the business men of the state should interest themselves keenly in it."

"Emory Olmstead has been appointed chairman of a committee to organize the trip."

So keen has become the interest in Portland that the Rose City Athletic club, of which Fred T. Merrill, of that city, is manager, is going to stage a "boxing smoker" in the Grants Pass opera house on Wednesday evening, when some of the most scientific boxers on the coast will exhibit their fist skill. The program will include two bouts, one of eight and one of ten rounds, with a four-round curtain raiser. The ten-round match will be between Muff Bronson, of Portland, and Joe Benjamin, of Spokane. The eight-round contest will include Alex Trambitas, a contender for the world's bantam-weight championship, and Eddie Gorman, of Oakland, Cal. Mr. Merrill states that the staging of this big boxing contest outside of Portland by the Rose City Athletic club is in the nature of an experiment, but if successful it will be followed by others. The matches will be fought strictly under the rules prescribed by the statutes of the state of Oregon, and the general public will be admitted at \$1 per adult. Ring-side seats will bring a premium.

meeting this afternoon. William B. Fitzgerald, who is leading the strike, and Congressman Meyer London, socialist, were also to address the crowd. Later the strike leaders will appear before the public service commission again.

The Union line, in the Bronx, on which the five-car smash-up occurred today, is the same on which three persons were killed Tuesday, when a car jumped the track. One car after another plunged down the grade on Westchester avenue in today's accident, with men and women screaming and shouting for help. The cars dashed down at such speed they dare not jump. When the first car stopped at the bottom the four coming up behind crashed into it. The strikebreakers said the brakes on the cars refused to work. They also claim the tracks had been greased during the night.

Some attempts were made to resume traffic today on the surface lines affected by the strike, but in the main the tie-up on the companies whose men are on strike was complete.

Subway and elevated trains continue to operate on regular schedule, but carrying unprecedented crowds, owing to the paralysis of the surface lines, and jammed to suffocation.

Ray Fremmey, of Harbor, Oregon, left this morning for Drumwright, Oklahoma.

## 125 CITIES SEEK PLANT FOR MAKING U.S. ARMOR PLATE

Washington, Sept. 14.—With conclusion of arguments by representatives of 125 cities that want the government armor plate plant expected tonight or tomorrow, the navy general board has decided to visit a majority of the sites proposed.

Some of the cities, it was stated, will necessarily have to be abandoned at the start, because sites suggested do not come within that section of the law which provides that the plant must be located "with special reference to safety in time of war."

That section, all members of the general board questioned today said, will be the principal issue involved in the location of the plant that will mean employment to many thousands of men and a payroll of many hundred thousands.

Other important considerations, such as availability of raw material, transportation facilities, etc., will be waived, if necessary to meet the provision.

The United Press learned today from an authoritative source that the following big factors must be considered in deciding on a location:

Cost of land for site.  
Availability of raw materials.  
Condition of labor market.

Transportation facilities, with the matter of bridges to be crossed or tunnels on the lines to shipbuilding plants, is a factor of first importance.

It was expected that the size and immense weight of the finished product made the matter of bridges and tunnels important.

## ANOTHER WESTERN TOUR FOR HUGHES

Chicago, Sept. 14.—Frank Hitchcock, of the national republican advisory committee, reached here today. Other members will arrive Monday for a conference.

Hitchcock announced plans for Governor Hughes' second western tour. The candidate will occupy a special train. Leaving New York the morning of September 18, he will reach Chicago at 4 a. m. September 19. Half an hour later he will go to Peoria. He will leave Springfield, Ill., the night of September 19, reaching Chicago early September 20. Two hours later he will go to Milwaukee, returning the morning of September 21. Immediately he will leave for Monon, Ind., and will spend four days in Indiana, speaking constantly except on Sunday, September 24, when he will rest at Indianapolis.

Joseph G. Cannon, of Danville, Ill., arrived here today from Washington. At republican headquarters here today he predicted a republican victory in November. He will leave for home tonight.

## BENNETT THOMPSON GUILTY OF MURDER

Hillsboro, Ore., Sept. 14.—Bennett Thompson faced a sentence of life imprisonment today, having been convicted of murdering Mrs. Helen Jennings at the Gore ranch last May. The verdict of guilty was returned in 33 minutes. Thompson's effort to prove an alibi failed.

The case against Thompson was entirely circumstantial. By scattered bits of evidence the state sought to prove he was angry at Mrs. Jennings because she refused to return his admiration and killed her while she slept and later, it was alleged, he killed Ristman, the jitney, on the theory that "dead men tell no tales."

His attorneys are discussing an appeal, but there is no money for a further court fight.

## TWO NATIONS TO POLICE BORDER

**Mexican Members of Commission Favor Establishment Neutral Constabulary to Patrol International Line**

New London, Conn., Sept. 14.—Establishment of a neutral constabulary along the border was strongly urged by the Mexicans here today in the conference of the joint American-Mexican commission endeavoring to reach a solution of the problems of Mexico.

Under this system the patrolling force would be non-military, but under discipline as strict as that observed in any army. They would have large powers in patrolling the border and in general would be an organization similar to the Mexican rurales or the Texas rangers.

The commissioners reached no agreement on the suggestion, inasmuch as it is only one of several ideas, but the Mexicans laid particular stress on it. Legal questions were also taken up today. The Mexicans said they had not abrogated the provisions of the constitution and the legal codes, but merely suspended them, and that a new civil courts system was now being instituted.

New London, Conn., Sept. 14.—Steps to relieve any unfair burdens in Mexican taxation of foreign owned property appeared likely to result from the conference today between American and Mexican commissioners here. At the same time the commissioners drew nearer to a concrete proposition for withdrawing American forces from Mexico and patrolling the boundary.

During the morning session today the joint commission discussed taxes. The Mexicans said frankly there is no intent to place a premium on enterprise, and the American commissioners agreed there is an effort to encourage development of revenues for the government while at the same time promoting industrial growth.

General Bliss counseled the American commissioners this afternoon on withdrawal and border patrol questions. From his suggestions a plan for withdrawing the troops in the near future and re-arranging the border patrol will develop.

The lobbyist group continues to grow about the commissioners daily. Letters from "interests," protesting and suggesting, come in stacks. Some lobbyists may be heard by the commissioners—but probably not.

The presence of J. P. Morgan's yacht Corsair at the harbor entrance here led to stories—unconfirmable—that the financier will take a direct hand in financial negotiations with Mexico. Morgan himself was not aboard the yacht when she arrived last night and flashed mysterious signals ashore.

## FRENCH WAR LOAN VOTE UNANIMOUS

Paris, Sept. 14.—The French chamber of deputies this evening registered the nation's confidence in the success of allied arms in an unprecedented manner.

Following Premier Briand's speech outlining the military situation, the chamber passed the new war loan asked by the government without a dissenting vote, 484 members voting their approval.